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MEMORANDUM FOR: Administrative Officer, DCI

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VIA:

Deputy Director for Administration

FROM:

Deputy Director of Logistics

SUBJECT:

Quill Corporation - Possible Procurement Source for Office Furnishings, Supplies, and Equipment

- 1. We appreciate your referring the Quill Corporations's office furnishings catalog to us as a possible source for equipment and furnishings. We should point out that the bulk of our office furniture and equipment must be procured from vendors who have Mandatory Federal Supply Schedule Contracts negotiated by the General Services Administration (GSA). Equipment under GSA schedules is manufactured under GSA specifications which guarantees a specific level of quality. Although we did not conduct a precise quality comparison, we have spot checked Quill's catalog prices with similar items on the GSA schedule and find GSA prices on two out of three items to be less costly than even the special sales prices offered by Quill.
- 2. Frequently, Agency components are required to meet emergency or quick reaction needs for office supplies and must go directly to the open market. In such cases, time is usually not available to use catalog sales and purchases are made at local stationery and office supplies stores by component logistics or administrative offices. While paying a bit more, response time is an important issue. If time is available and a reasonable dollar value required, Procurement Division will be pleased to go on the open market to Quill or any other competitive source to acquire needed supplies and equipment.
- 3. In any event, we will add the Quill Corporation to our vendors files as a potential source for items not on the GSA schedule. We will also contact GSA to see if Quill Corporation has made any effort to bid on GSA schedule awards and if not, suggest GSA consider inviting them to bid.

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